



HAPPY HOUR

SUMMER VENTURE

This SUMMER VENTURE inspired by Jessica Perez.

Connecting people and neighboring is MY JAM!!! I LOVE people! Our street has been very connected and it's helped to have many people share the load of planning getting together and taking initiative. When there are 2-3 initiators, someone has bandwidth when the others don't. We haven't neighbored perfectly by any means but locking down some traditions has helped us keep it up. And as we've seen some move away and others move in, they continue and it's given us an onramp to invite others to join in! I like to remind people often - "We're not perfect at planning ahead! Sometimes it's impromptu, so when you see something happening, just grab whatever chips & wine you have and come!" We have a facebook group for just our street to spread the word on things & many people in our community have the ideas & gather people together.

We've had outdoor movie nights, fire nights, shaving cream party to kick off school, ice cream Sunday bar on the last day of school. Many of these events are now traditions and as our big kids age out, we treasure the new generation coming up in these parties & pictures! Before I say how we're reengaging in COVID-19, I'd like to reminisce in the old days. Here are some reoccurring events for my street.

Additional ideas that we have done & some we continue to do:

- First day of school group pictures
- Front porch happy hour with chips, salsa, drinks
- Halloween Happy hour & group picture starts the night at my house, ends on another family's driveway for the adults
- Thanksgiving Eve, dessert & drinks
- Christmas jammies & gingerbread houses party
- New Years Eve progressive dinner
- different courses at different homes.
- New Years Eve post dinner & games
- Impromptu happy hours & fire nights
- 4th of July block party followed by the Town of Timnath festivals

What does this look like in COVID-19?

About 4 Fridays ago, we came back out in person and the grown ups spread out on a driveway for a safe Happy Hour. BEST. DAY. EVER. We couldn't believe how we missed and longed to be in person again. So it's on. Since we can't go anywhere this summer, we decided that we're keeping it! Last Friday we celebrated May birthdays and had about 20 spread out in family groups on a large driveway.

We look forward to sharing in food and getting back to grilling out front and sharing in potlucks, but for now it's safest to bring your own food and your own drinks. Several of our neighbors are on the front lines of COVID - working in our local hospitals and law enforcement. Instead of an ice cream Sunday bar, the kids had prepackaged ice cream sandwiches. And for the adults having happy hour, we're not sharing or touching the same drinks. Bring your own! It's also helpful to connect with neighbors outside because you can run home and use your own bathroom.

Well this is how we're neighboring safely right now and it's been great! I encourage you to reach out and get a happy hour going!